

In the relative length of the wing it does not differ from the latter genus, while in coloration it bears a strong resemblance to *P. atrocarulea* (the type of the genus).

*T. dowi* somewhat suggests *T. nigroviridis* in coloration, and while the bill appears to average larger and stouter, yet some individuals agree essentially with the latter. *T. fucosus*, closely allied to *T. dowi*, and *T. cabanisi* (known only from the type specimen), associated with *T. dowi* and *T. nigroviridis* by Selater, I have not seen. *T. cabanisi*, judging by the colored plate in 'The Ibis' (1868, pl. III), has a much larger and thicker bill than its supposed allies. In *T. heinei* (*atricapilla* auct.) and *T. argentea* the bill is depressed and much swollen laterally, the throat feathers are bifurcate and the sexes are unlike in color. *T. cyanopectera*, while agreeing in the last respect and to a considerable extent in coloration, has a thicker bill. *T. fulvicervix* and *T. melanotis* are small-billed species not very dissimilar to the species of *Procnopis* in color, but the bill is narrower and less depressed.

If *Procnopis* is to be recognized as a genus, *Tangara nigroviridis* must be transferred to it. Even with this change, however, it is extremely doubtful whether the distinction can be maintained, so complete is the intergradation between the two groups. I suggest, therefore, unless we are ready to divide *Tangara* into a number of ill-defined genera, an undertaking of doubtful practicability, that *Procnopis* be united with *Tangara*. If this is done, the latter genus will not be appreciably more heterogeneous in any respect than it is at present.

It may be noted that *Tangara argentea* was originally described as a *Procnopis* in the paper in which the latter genus was described by Cabanis. Also that *Procnopis* was not recognized by other authorities until Selater (in the British Museum Catalogue) decided that *P. atrocarulea* was more nearly allied to *Diva* (type *D. vassorii*) than to *Calliste* and united it with *Diva* under the older name *Procnopis*.

Under the arrangement suggested the three species of *Procnopis* will stand as:

*Tangara vassorii* (Boiss.)

*Tangara branickii* (Tacz.)

*Tangara atrocarulea* (Tsch.)

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**Early Arrival of the Tree Swallow in Plymouth.**— The Tree Swallow is an "early bird" in Plymouth, as elsewhere. But Plymouth seems to be unique, so far as the published records for eastern North America show, as the station of the *earliest* arrival of this "early bird." The average date for six years of first Tree Swallows seen at the Head of the Beach, Plymouth, is March 16. This compares with the usual "first week of April" reports from most places and with the Ipswich (on the other side of Massachusetts Bay) ten-year average of March 28 and with the St. Louis ten-year average of March 24 and with the Washington earliest date seen of

March 28. The inference is, of course, that if the Tree Swallow is watched for by more observers, and if stations as favorable as Plymouth are selected, the Plymouth average will be duplicated or even surpassed.

Following are dates of arrival in Plymouth (Chiltonville — "Head of the Beach"):

1908. Mar. 7. First swallow.  
 " 16. A flock. (A mild first week of March.)
1909. " 11. A flock of 20 swallows.  
 " 12. Same flock.  
 " 17. Snowing. Flock sits on a telephone wire near the beach in p.m. 22°-24° above zero.  
 " 18. A cold and blustering morning. No swallows.  
 " 19. A few swallows at the beach.  
 " 25. A flock of swallows feeding on the bayberries, of which there are a plenty this spring. Very blowy and rough, and from noon a hard rain fell, which increased at night almost to a gale. But not a low temperature.
1910. " 20. A south wind has blown probably for 36 hours. Warm today. Quite a lot of swallows are here. Don't think they were here yesterday.  
 " 22. Saw some swallows in the morning at the head of the beach. Also saw two or three swallows in East Middleborough.
1911. " 18. A swallow or two.  
 " 22. A number of swallows seen.  
 " 23. Quite a lot of Swallows that settled by the hundreds on the bayberries.  
 " 24. More swallows today.  
 " 26. Swallows lively and plentiful. Two or three days last week were very rough, cold, and wintry, yet the swallows were flying around today. I wonder where and how they pass the cold nights.
1912. " 19. A flock of 50 swallows seen between 11 and 12 o'clock.
1913. " 23. Saw the first swallows — a dozen or more.
1914. Apr. 4. Saw one swallow — also a flock of 8 or 10. Strange that they should be so late this year.
1917. Swallows appeared during the week of March 18, after the snowy conditions resulting from the great storm of March 4 and 5 had disappeared. This storm probably made them late this year. But once arrived in Plymouth, the Tree Swallows seem to come to stay. They hang on in the face of bad conditions and rarely beat a retreat, as they so often do elsewhere. To illustrate: "April 9 was sunny and scarcely coolish. But at 5 a.m. on the 10th a blizzard began, with snow and a hard blow, so that the street cars soon stopped run-

ning on account of the drifts. But I saw three Swallows flying in the morning in the driving snow. It was not, however, a cold storm, although it cleared off cooler and blustering, with a good deal of snow on the ground. Nevertheless, I saw more swallows during the day. Birds in general must be faring hard, although it is not a bitter snap." (I note in my journal of April 12 that there is still a lot of snow on the ground and that the storm must have been of some force because "I hear of great numbers of Shelldrakes in the bay at South Mashpee driven in I suppose by the storm.")

1918. Mar. 18. First swallow.

JOHN A. FARLEY, *Malden, Mass.*

**Hybrid Warbler in Missouri.**—A hybrid of the Blue and Golden-winged Warblers was collected near Lexington, Mo., May 3, 1919, by my friend, Mr. Clark Salyer. The specimen was collected on one of the heavily wooded bluffs of the Missouri River. With the exception of one particular, the specimen is a Lawrence's Warbler. It has the coloring of the Blue-winged Warbler as a basis, and has the black throat patch of the Lawrence's Warbler, but the black on the cheeks is like the black on the Blue-winged Warbler, not like that of the Golden-winged. In other words, the black does not form an ear patch, but is merely in front of the eye and through it. The specimen is six and one-fourth inches in length,—over an inch longer than either species from which it is derived. It is a male, in excellent condition, and, as a cabinet skin, now forms part of the collection of Mr. Salyer.—E. GORDON ALEXANDER, *Lexington, Mo.*

**The Orange-crowned Warbler on Long Island in April.**—On April 13, 1919, at Miller Place, Long Island, N. Y., I watched an Orange-crowned Warbler (*Vermivora celata celata*) for some time as it hunted among the buds of some apple trees. It was very active and apparently in full vigor. It was seen under the most favorable conditions, often within ten or twelve feet leaving no doubt in my mind as to its identity. I have occasionally met with this species on Long Island in the fall, but this rather unseasonable occurrence is the first vernal record I have.—A. H. HELME, *Miller Place, Long Island, N. Y.*

**Peculiar Brooding of the Black-throated Blue Warbler.**—A female *Dendroica caerulescens*, whose nest I found June 19, 1918, in Rowe, Mass., made a unique display of herself as a close-sitting bird. The nest, a beautiful and elaborate structure, was three feet from the ground in a hemlock sapling which was one of a thick clump of the same sort that bordered a wood road. The eyes of the young were open. The female was off the nest when I found it, but when I returned, a quarter of an hour later,